

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method for facilitating sale and distribution of fuel to a  
2 fuel customer, comprising the following step:  
3 at a server facility, storing store fuel deal data, and  
4 processing said fuel deal data to automatically generate pricing  
5 data based on said fuel deal data and in accordance with a  
6 predetermined pricing technique;  
7 at a client facility coupled to said server facility via an  
8 electronic data network, permitting a user to enter said fuel deal  
9 data and to cause said server facility to store and process said  
10 fuel deal data to automatically generate said pricing data; and  
11 permitting said fuel to be sold and distributed to a fuel  
12 customer via a fuel distribution system based on said fuel deal  
13 data and said automatically generated pricing data.

Rule 1.126  
1 2. The method according to claim 1, wherein said server facility  
2 and said client facility are coupled to each other via the  
3 Internet.

3 2. The method according to claim 1, wherein said server facility  
2 and said client facility are coupled to each other via open  
3 standards based protocols.

4 3. The method according to claim 1, wherein said server facility  
2 includes a data storage facility storing said fuel deal data.

5 4. The method according to claim 1, wherein said server facility  
2 automatically generates said pricing data periodically.

6 5. The method according to claim 1, wherein said server facility is  
2 further configured to be accessed by a plurality of other client  
3 facilities simultaneously.

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1. The method according to claim 1, wherein said client facility is  
2       remotely located away from said server facility and said client  
3       facility acts as a data collection point for collecting data that  
4       said server facility uses in automatically generating said pricing  
5       data.

18. The method according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined  
2       pricing technique involves basing prices for fuel deals based  
3       on past fuel deals.

19. The method according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined  
2       pricing technique involves said server facility generating a  
3       weighted average selling price based on prior fuel deals.

19. The method according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined  
2       pricing technique is implemented within said server facility as a  
3       software module running within said server facility.

19. A method for facilitating sale and distribution of fuel to a fuel  
2       customer, comprising the steps of:

3               at a server facility, storing fuel deal data, and processing  
4       said fuel deal data to automatically generate pricing data based  
5       on said fuel deal data and in accordance with a predetermined  
6       pricing technique, said predetermined pricing technique controlling  
7       said server facility to compute fuel prices based on weighted  
8       averages of fuel prices maintained within said fuel deal data;

9               at a client facility outfitted with a client application and  
10      coupled to said server facility via an electronic data network,  
11      permitting a user to enter said fuel deal data and to cause said  
12      server facility to store and process said fuel deal data to generate  
13      said pricing data, said client application configured to access said  
14      electronic data network and to establish communications with said  
15      server facility; and

16                    permitting said fuel to be sold and distributed to a fuel  
17                    customer via a fuel distribution system based on said fuel deal  
18                    data and said automatically generated pricing data.

11                    11. The method according to claim 10, wherein said server facility  
12                    and said client facility are coupled to each other via the  
13                    Internet.

11                    12. The method according to claim 10, wherein said server facility  
12                    and said client facility are coupled to each other via open  
13                    standards based protocols.

11                    13. The method according to claim 10, wherein said server facility  
12                    includes a data storage facility storing said fuel deal data.

11                    14. The method according to claim 10, wherein said server facility  
12                    automatically generated said pricing data periodically.

11                    15. The method according to claim 10, wherein said server facility  
12                    is further configured to be accessed by a plurality of other  
13                    client facilities simultaneously.

11                    16. The method according to claim 10, wherein said client facility  
12                    is remotely located away from said server facility and said  
13                    client facility acts as a data collection point for collecting data  
14                    that said server facility uses in automatically generating said  
15                    pricing data.

11                    17. The method according to claim 10, wherein said  
12                    predetermined pricing technique involves basing prices for fuel  
13                    deals based on past fuel deals.

11                    18. The method according to claim 10, wherein said  
12                    predetermined pricing technique involves said server facility

3 generating a weighted average selling price based on prior fuel  
4 deals.

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1 19. The method according to claim 10, wherein said  
2 predetermined pricing technique is implemented within said  
3 server facility as a software module running within said server  
4 facility.

1 20. The method according to claim 10, further comprising the step  
2 of providing a graphical user interface to a user of said client  
3 facility, said graphical user interface permitting said user to  
4 engage in operations and to cause said server facility to  
5 automatically computer said fuel prices.

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